

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 1. (Currently Amended) A method of automatically establishing a conference
2 comprising:
3 receiving conference logistics from a subscriber initiating a conference, wherein the
4 conference logistics comprise a participant communication address;
5 receiving participant profile data from the subscriber, wherein the participant profile data
6 comprises a plurality of participant communication addresses and current participant communication
7 addresses associated with the each of the plurality of participant communication addresses;
8 allocating a conference bridge ~~port~~ ports to set up for a number of participants associated
9 with participant communication addresses in the participant profile data for the conference in
10 accordance with the conference logistics;
11 after allocating the conference bridge ~~port~~ ports to set up the conference, extracting a current
12 participant communication address from the conference logistics provided by the subscriber;
13 determining if the participant profile data includes a ~~the~~ current participant communication
14 address matching the current participant communication address extracted from the conference
15 logistics;
16 if the participant profile data does not include a current participant communication address
17 matching the current participant communication address extracted from the conference logistics,
18 then automatically updating the extracted participant communication address extracted from the
19 conference logistics with the current participant communication address from the participant profile
20 data associated with the participant communication address;
21 automatically initiating ~~a connection~~ connections to the current participant communication
22 addresses for providing an invitation to the conference based on the current participant
23 communication address;
24 presenting an option allowing participants connected via current participant communication
25 addresses to accept or refuse the connection to the conference; and
26 connecting a conference bridge ~~communications switch port~~ associated with the current
27 participant communication address to each of the connected current participant communication
28 addresses opting to accept the connection to the conference to the allocated conference bridge ~~port~~
29 ports.

1 2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the
2 conference logistics further comprises receiving a start date and a connect time.

1 3. (Canceled)

1 4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein allocating a bridge
2 port is performed in accordance with a number of conference participants in accordance with
3 the conference logistics.

1 5. (Canceled)

1 6. (Canceled)

1 7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the participant profile
2 data comprises at least two of the current participant communication address, a home
3 address, an office address, and a wireless address.

1 8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the communications
2 switch port comprises a telephone switch port.

1 9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the participant
2 communication address and the current participant communication address each comprises a
3 telephone number.

1 10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein connecting a
2 communications switch port to the allocated conference bridge port takes place in accordance
3 with the start date and connect time reflected in the conference logistics.

1 11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the participant
2 communication address comprises an Internet Protocol (IP) address.

1 12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving conference logistics
2 comprises receiving subsequent input to a DTMF menu.

1 13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving conference logistics
2 comprises receiving a formatted file comprising labeled conference provisioning information.

1 14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving conference logistics
2 comprises receiving subscriber input to a form displayed on a client device.

1 15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein a participant responds
2 with a DTMF tone to accept or refuse a connection to the conference.

1 16. (Currently Amended) A method of automatically establishing a conference
2 comprising:
3 receiving conference logistics from a subscriber initiating a conference, wherein the
4 conference logistics comprise a participant communication address;
5 receiving participant profile data from the subscriber, wherein the participant profile data
6 comprises a plurality of participant communication addresses and current participant
7 communication addresses associated with the each of the plurality of participant communication
8 addresses;
9 creating a conference record in accordance with the conference logistics;
10 maintaining conference containers indicative of how the conference record will be
11 processed;
12 allocating a conference bridge ~~port~~ ports to set up for a number of participants associated
13 with participant communication addresses in the participant profile data for the conference in
14 accordance with the conference logistics;
15 after allocating the conference bridge ~~port~~ ports to set up the conference, extracting a
16 current participant communication address from the conference logistics provided by the
17 subscriber;
18 determining if the participant profile data includes a current participant communication
19 address matching the current participant communication address extracted from the conference
20 logistics;
21 if the participant profile data does not include a current participant communication address
22 matching the current participant communication address extracted from the conference logistics,
23 then automatically updating the extracted participant communication address extracted from the
24 conference logistics with the current participant communication address from the participant
25 profile data associated with the participant communication address;
26 automatically initiating ~~a connection~~ connections to the current participant communication
27 addresses for providing an invitation to the conference based on the current participant
28 communication address;
29 presenting an option allowing participants connected via current participant communication
30 addresses to accept or refuse the connection to the conference; and
31 connecting a conference bridge ~~communications switch port~~ associated with the current
32 participant communication address to each of the connected current participant communication
33 addresses opting to accept the connection to the conference to the allocated conference bridge ~~port~~
34 ports.

1 17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the conference
2 containers indicate whether the conference record should be allocated the conference bridge
3 port and connected immediately, whether the conference record should be allocated the
4 conference bridge port only, or whether the conference record should be connected only.

1 18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein receiving the
2 conference logistics further comprises receiving a start date and a connect time.

1 19. (Canceled)

1 20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein allocating a bridge
2 port is performed in accordance with a number of conference participants in accordance with
3 the conference logistics.

1 21. (Canceled)

1 22. (Canceled)

1 23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the participant
2 profile data comprises at least two of the current participant communication address, a home
3 address, an office address, and a wireless address.

1 24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the communications
2 switch port comprises a telephone switch port.

1 25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the participant
2 communication address and the current participant communication address each comprises a
3 telephone number.

1 26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, wherein connecting a
2 communications switch port to the allocated conference bridge port takes place in accordance
3 with the start date and connect time reflected in the conference logistics.

1 27. (Currently Amended) A method of automatically establishing a conference
2 comprising:
3 receiving conference logistics from a subscriber initiating a conference, wherein the
4 conference logistics comprise a participant communication address;
5 receiving participant profile data from the subscriber, wherein the participant profile data
6 comprises a plurality of participant communication addresses and current participant communication
7 addresses associated with the each of the plurality of participant communication addresses;
8 creating a conference record in accordance with the conference logistics;
9 maintaining conference containers indicative of how the conference record will be processed;
10 allocating a conference bridge ~~port~~ ports to set up for a number of participants associated
11 with participant communication addresses in the participant profile data for the conference in
12 accordance with the conference logistics;
13 after allocating the conference bridge ~~port~~ ports to set up the conference, extracting a current
14 participant communication address from the conference logistics provided by the subscriber;
15 determining if the participant profile data includes a current participant communication
16 address matching the current participant communication address extracted from the conference
17 logistics;
18 if the participant profile data does not include a current participant communication address
19 matching the current participant communication address extracted from the conference logistics,
20 then updating the participant communication address extracted from the conference logistics with the
21 current participant communication address from the participant profile data associated with the
22 participant communication address;
23 automatically initiating a ~~connection~~ connections to the current participant communication
24 addresses for providing an invitation to the conference based on the current participant
25 communication address;
26 presenting an option allowing participants connected via current participant communication
27 addresses to accept or refuse the connection to the conference; and
28 connecting a conference bridge ~~communications switch~~ port associated with the current
29 participant communication address to each of the connected current participant communication
30 addresses opting to accept the connection to the conference to the allocated conference bridge port
31 ports, wherein the current participant communication address comprises an Internet Protocol (IP)
32 address.

1 28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein receiving
2 conference logistics comprises receiving subscriber input to a DTMF menu.

1 29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein receiving
2 conference logistics comprises receiving a formatted file comprising labeled conference
3 provision information.

1 30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein receiving
2 conference logistics comprises receiving subscriber input to a form displayed on a client
3 device.

1 31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein a participant
2 responds with a DTMF tone to accept or refuse a connection to the conference.